

1 BIOPSY SITE MARKER AND PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR
2 APPLYING IT

3 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

4 A biopsy site marker comprises small bodies or pellets of gelatin which
5 enclose substantially in their interior a radio (X-ray) opaque object. The
6 gelatin pellets are deposited into the biopsy site, typically a cylindrical
7 opening in the tissue created by the recent use of a vacuum assisted large core
8 biopsy device, by an applicator device that includes an elongated cylindrical
9 body that forms a flexible tube and a piston slidable in the tube. One end of
10 the tube is placed into the biopsy site. Typically, several gelatin pellets, only
11 some of which typically do, but all of which may contain the radio opaque
12 object, are deposited sequentially into the site through the tube. The radio
13 opaque objects contained in the gelatin bodies are of a non-biological
14 configuration and readily identifiable as man-made object, so that in
15 observation by typical mammography equipment they do not assume the
16 shape of a line, whereby they are readily distinguishable from granules and
17 lines of calcification.